CARROLLTON SELECTED AS GEORGIA "CITY OF EXCELLENCE"

The City of Carrollton was named one of Georgia's best managed, most livable cities by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and <u>Georgia Trend Magazine</u> during GMA's 44th Annual Mayors' Day in Atlanta on January 24, 2002.

Carrollton was one of only ten (10) award recipients selected by a statewide independent panel of twelve (12) distinguished business, media, academic, and government leaders. Cities were evaluated based on criteria such as fiscal management, public safety, cultural activities, downtown viability, etc. The cities chosen will be featured in the February issue of Georgia Trend.

Commenting on the award Mayor Gerald Pilgrim said, "This puts us in the top tier of cities throughout the State. It is another item to add to the arsenal to show prospects that this is a great place to work, play, and raise families." City Manager Danny Mabry added, "I believe this just confirms what a great place this is to live, work, and raise a family. It goes beyond City services, in that it reflects the overall strength of our community's key institutions, organizations, and leadership." Carrollton was also recently recognized as one of the fifty (50) best small southern towns in a publication by <u>Peachtree Publishers</u>.

"Georgia's city leaders provide good government and build strong, dynamic communities", said GMA Executive Director Jim Higdon and Georgia Trend editor and publisher Neely Young in a joint statement. "The ten (10) chosen cities demonstrate how cities can make a difference in our quality of life."

During the Mayors' Day luncheon a video highlighted accomplishments of each city, followed by Governor Roy Barnes, Jim Higdon, and Neely Young awarding the Mayor and City Councilmembers of the cities with a marble and bronze plaque recognizing the city as a "Georgia City of Excellence". Other recipients of the award were Albany, Bainbridge, Conyers, Dalton, Lavonia, Marietta, Statesboro, Tifton, and Valdosta.